

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 01700 011620Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 ACDA-12

OMB-01 TRSE-00 OPR-02 A-01 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00

MCE-00 ARA-10 AID-05 PC-01 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /126 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6982

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 1700

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PBOR, CD, LY

SUBJ: LIBYAN INTERVENTION IN CHAD

REF: NDJAMENA 1696

1. FROM NDJAMENA PERSPECTIVE, QADHAFI'S ASSURANCES THAT HE IS PRESSING REBEL LEADER GOUKOUNI TO DESIST FROM FURTHER MILITARY ACTION HAVE A HOLLOW RING. NOT ONLY DOES REBEL RADIO CONTINUE TO BROADCAST FROM LIBYA, (INCLUDING ITS DENUNCIATION OF THE CEASE FIRE), BUT REBEL FORCES MOVING SOUTHWARD ARE EQUIPPED AND ORGANIZED IN A MORE SOPHISTICATED FASHION THAN THEY WERE AT FAYA LARGEAU. THE EQUIPMENT WHICH, ACCORDING TO FRENCH, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 NDJAME 01700 011620Z

INCLUDES RADAR-COUNTROLLED MORTARS, SURFACE TO AIR MISSILES (PROBABLY SAM 9'S AS THEY ARE RADIO-CONTROLLED AND FIRE HIGHER THAN SAM 7'S), EXTENSIVE VEHICULAR SUPPORT, AND AN ELABORATE LOGISTICAL SET-UP, COULD ONLY HAVE COME FROM LIBYA. IN ADDITION, ITS USE AND DEPLOYMENT HAVE BEEN SUCH THAT REGULAR TROOPS ARE ASSUMED TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED; AGAIN LIBYA

SEEMS ONLY LIKELY SOURCE, ALTHOUGH RUMORS OF CUBAN AND EAST GERMAN INVOLVEMENT REMAIN NUMEROUS.

2. FORMER REBEL LEADER HISSSEN HABRE, IN A PRESS CONFERENCE IN NDJAMENA ON APRIL 28, CONDEMNED ALL OUTSIDE INTERVENTION IN CHAD (FRENCH AS WELL AS LIBYAN), BUT SAVED HIS MOST DAMNING WORDS FOR QADHAFI, WHO HE SAID HAD ASPIRATIONS IN CHAD FAR BEYOND THE AOZOU STRIP. HE SAID THAT QADHAFI BELIEVED BORKOU, ENNEDI, TIBESTI, AND KANEM SHOULD BE MADE AN INTEGRAL PART OF LIBYA IN A STEP BY STEP FASHION.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER KAMOUGUE, IN A STATEMENT AT DAKAR, WHILE DOWNPLAYING THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN CHAD, AGAIN POINTED OUT THAT GOUKOUNI WAS BEING MANIPULATED BY OUTSIDE FORCES. HE WENT ON TO ADD THAT IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION, THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL WAS OBLIGED TO COOPERATE WITH LIBYA PARTLY BECAUSE FROLINAT WAS HEADQUARTERED THERE AND PARTLY BECAUSE QADHAFI IS SOLEMNLY ENGAGED BEFORE INTERNATIONAL OPINION TO HELP CHAD ACHIEVE THIS GOAL.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE LIBYA'S PUBLIC ASSURANCES TO THE CONTRARY, IT IS CLEAR QADHAFI HAS DECIDED TO LET GOUKOUNI PUSH AS FAR AS POSSIBLE IN HOPES OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 NDJAME 01700 011620Z

TUMBLING MALLOUM GOVERNMENT BEFORE SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS ARE RESUMED. CHADIANS, FOR THEIR PART, HOPE BY CONSTANT REMAINDER OF HIS COMMITMENT TO INDUCE OTHER AFRICANS TO PUSH QADHAFI TOWARDS MODERATION. BRADFORD

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